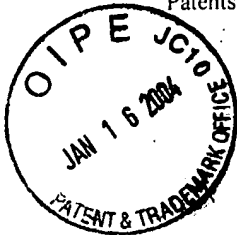


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Name of Applicant, Assignee or  
Registered Representative

[Signature]  
Signature

Our File No. 09799940-0081

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Artur E. Balasinski, et al.

Serial No. 09/608,158

Filing Date: June 30, 2000

For Scheme for Improving the  
Predictability and/or Reliability of  
Photolithographic Images

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Examiner Kandasamy Thangavelu

Group Art Unit No. 2123

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JAN 22 2004

Technology Center 2100

## AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action of September 10, 2003 Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following amendments and remarks.

01/21/2004 DTESSEM1 00000079 193140 09608158

01 FC:1201 86.00 DA